

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

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Massachusetts Electric Company and  
Nantucket Electric Company  
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D.T.E. 03-88-E

**JOINT PETITION OF BOSTON EDISON COMPANY, CAMBRIDGE  
ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY AND COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC  
COMPANY D/B/A NSTAR ELECTRIC REQUESTING LIMITED  
PARTICIPANT STATUS**

Pursuant to 220 C.M.R. 1.03, Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric ("NSTAR Electric" or the "Companies") hereby petitions the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department") to participate in the above-captioned proceeding as Limited Participants. In support of its petition, NSTAR Electric states the following:

1. Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company are each a Massachusetts distribution company, as defined in G.L. c. 164, § 1, providing retail service in Massachusetts and is subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Department.

2. The Companies' usual place of business is:

NSTAR Electric  
800 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02199

3. On January 20, 2004, the Department issued a Notice of Inquiry, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 1A(a), 1B(d), 94; and 220 C.M.R. § 11.04, into the Costs That Should Be Included in Default Service Rates for Massachusetts Electric Company and

Nantucket Electric Company. The Department docketed the proceeding as D.T.E. 03-88-E.

4. In conducting adjudicatory hearings, the Department “may allow any person showing that he may be substantially and specifically affected by the proceeding to intervene as a party in the whole or any portion of the proceeding, and allow any other interested person to participate by presentation of argument orally or in writing, or for any other limited purpose,” as the Department may order. G.L. c. 30A, § 10(4); 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1)(b).
5. The Department’s investigation in this proceeding may raise substantial ratemaking and related issues that are common to other distribution companies in Massachusetts, including the Companies.
6. In addition, good cause exists for allowing this petition because: (1) the procedural conference for the proceeding has not yet been held; and (2) the Companies’ Limited Participant status will not jeopardize the efficiency of the Department’s investigation in any material way.
7. Accordingly, the Companies seek to participate in this proceeding as Limited Participants with rights to receive copies of all pleadings, discovery requests and responses and to file brief(s) in accordance with the procedural schedule to be established by the Department.

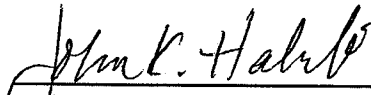
**WHEREFORE**, for the reasons stated above, NSTAR Electric respectfully requests that this Petition to Participate as a Limited Participant in the above-referenced proceeding be granted. NSTAR Electric hereby notices the appearance of the

undersigned counsel. Please send one copy of all notices, testimony, pleadings and correspondence pertaining to this proceeding to counsel as shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

**BOSTON EDISON COMPANY  
CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY  
COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY**

By Its Attorneys,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John K. Habib", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert N. Werlin, Esq.

John K. Habib, Esq.

Keegan, Werlin & Pabian, LLP

265 Franklin Street

Boston, MA 02110

(617) 951-1400 (ph)

(617) 951-1354 (fax)

rwerlin@kwplaw.com

Date: March 2, 2004